

Serial Number 09/414,518

REMARKS

The rejections of claims 28-30 and 32 have been rendered moot by the addition, to claim 28, of the subject matter of claim 31, indicated as allowable in item 4 on page 3 of the Official Action. Claims 33-43 are indicated as allowed in item 5 on page 3 of the Official Action.

Because the amendments merely combine claims 28 and 31, canceling claim 31, entry of the amendments is believed to be appropriate despite the after-final status of the application.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. E. Urcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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